2014 // 15 SEASON

Northrop Presents
CCN DE CRÉTEIL ET DU VAL-DE-MARNE/
COMPAGNIE KÄFIG

Tue, Mar 10, 7:30 pm
Carlson Family Stage

Correria Agwa
Dear Friends of Northrop,

Welcome to Compagnie Käfig, which brings a jolt of Brazilian sunshine and sparkling energy to our Minnesota winter. We’ve welcomed artists from near and far this season, confirming that dance is, indeed, a universal art form. Tonight’s artists, like so many others we’ve seen on the Northrop stage, cross many boundaries—both geographically and artistically.

Based in France, Compagnie Käfig is led by Mourad Merzouki, a choreographer of French-Algerian descent. He grew up in a working-class suburb of Lyon, one of eight children, and was encouraged to take up boxing and circus arts at an early age. He was then drawn to hip-hop as a teenager, even though, he says, “In my culture, nobody dances.” But he fell in love with the form, explaining, “…if I dance, I think I will never die. It’s as important as that.”

The life-affirming power of dance certainly figures in the story of tonight’s program. It all started with a chance encounter at the Lyon Dance Biennial in 2006 between our choreographer and 11 young male dancers from Rio de Janeiro. While the dancing was bursting with fun, humor and vitality, it was the dancers’ irresistible personalities that inspired Merzouki. He was captivated by their stories of growing up in Rio’s favelas, and their commitment to creating opportunities for themselves despite the challenges of their circumstances.

Correria (running) and Agwa (water) both draw from these stories, as well as from the dancers’ own movement vocabulary. Each is a dynamic fusion of hip-hop, samba, capoeira, circus, and contemporary dance styles. Correria plunges us into a frantic, hectic race just like the one that governs our daily lives. Agwa is all about water—the most vital component of the human body, a precious natural resource to be preserved, and a symbol of renewal.

I hope you get caught up in the infectious, boundary-defying energy that is Compagnie Käfig. Thank you for joining us tonight.

Sincerely,

Christine Tschida
Director of Northrop

NEXT UP AT NORTHROP: MARTHA GRAHAM DANCE COMPANY in two different evenings of repertoire, including Graham classics, and works from contemporary choreographers that explore Graham’s legacy. Performances on Friday, April 10 and Saturday, April 11, at 8:00 pm. Don’t miss either one!
**Correria (2010)**

Correria (running) plunges us into a frantic, hectic race just like the one that governs our daily lives.

Choreographer, **Mourad Merzouki**, with the collaboration of the dancers
Assistant of the Choreographer, **Laurence Pérez**
Musical Arrangements, **AS’N**
Lighting Design, **Yoann Tivoli**
Stage Design, **Mourad Merzouki and Benjamin Lebreton**
Costume Design, **Delphine Capossela**
Video, **Charles Carcopino**
Production, **Centre chorégraphique national de Créteil et du Val-de-Marne / Compagnie Käfig**

**INTERMISSION**

**Agwa (2008)**

Agwa (water) is all about water, at once a vital component of our bodies, a precious—vital, even—natural resource to be economized and preserved, and a symbol of renewal.

Choreographer, **Mourad Merzouki**
Assistant of the Choreographer, **Kader Belmoktar**
Musical Director, **AS’N**
Lighting Design, **Yoann Tivoli**
Stage Design, **Mourad Merzouki and Benjamin Lebreton**
Costume Design, **Angèle Mignot**
Light control, **Dominique Palabaud**
Sound control and stage management, **Eric Georges**
Production, **Compagnie Käfig**

Coproduction, **Biennale de la Danse de Lyon** and **Espace Albert Camus de Bron**

Acknowledgements, **Nouveau Théâtre du 8ème – Lyon**, **Centro Coreografico de Rio de Janeiro**, and the **French Consulate at Rio de Janeiro**

Northern American Tour, **Sunny Artist Management Inc.**
Director, **Ilter Ibrahimof** (ilter@sunnyartistmanagement.com)
sunnyartistmanagement.com

*Sincere thanks to Guy Darmet, who made this encounter happen.*

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**About Correria Agwa**

The trigger for *Correria* and *Agwa* was an encounter between Mourad Merzouki and 11 young dancers from Rio de Janeiro at the Lyon Dance Biennial in 2006.

The Brazilian dancers had their roots in the favelas, and their individual stories struck a profound chord with the Company Käfig choreographer. They were all driven by a passion for dance and a fervent determination to make something of their lives by reaching out to others.

The dancers mix complex hip-hop, capoeira, samba, electronic music and bossa nova to bring a dance with amazing acrobatics, stuffed with energy and invention.
“Combines street dance with the circus to provide a gasp-worthy, lighthearted, enormously creative show.”

—Chicago Tribune

CCN de Créteil et du Val-de-Marne/Cie Käfig in Corruela Agwa. Photo © Michel Cavalcă.
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR AND CHOREOGRAPHER
MOURAD MERZOUKI

Born in Lyon in 1973, Mourad Merzouki began practicing martial arts and circus arts as early as a seven-year-old. At the age of 15, he encountered hip-hop culture for the first time and through it, discovered dance. Merzouki quickly decided to develop this form of street art while also experimenting with other choreographic styles, particularly with Maryse Delente, Jean-François Durotore and Josef Nadj. The wealth of his experiences fed his desire to direct artistic projects, blending hip-hop with other disciplines. In 1989 he, along with Kader Attou, Eric Mezino, and Chaouki Said, created his first company ‘Accorrap.’ In 1994, the company performed Athina during Lyon’s Biennial Dance Festival; it was a triumph that brought street dance to the stage.

Merzouki’s travels have led him into uncharted territory, where dance can be a powerful means of communication. In order to develop his own artistic style and sensitivity, Merzouki established his own company, Käfig, in 1996. In January 2006, Compagnie Käfig began a period of residence at Espace Albert Camus in Bron. The theatre became the venue of the Karavel Festival, created in 2007 under the leadership of Mourad Merzouki. The festival invites some 10 different hip-hop companies and other initiatives to the city.

In parallel, Merzouki spearheaded the inception of a new center for choreographic creation and development: Pôle Pik opened its doors in Bron in 2009. In June 2009, Merzouki was appointed director of the Centre Chorégraphique National in Créteil et du Val-de-Marne. He continues to develop his projects there, with an accent on openness to the world.

In 18 years, Merzouki has created 23 shows and his company gives on average 150 performances per year around the world.

THE ARTISTS

DIEGO ALVES DOS SANTOS
Diego trained in urban dance at the school of Marcia Lacombe and received a diploma from the Universidade of Rio de Janeiro. In 2003, he studied with Buddha Stretch, Xavier, Nobru de Souza, and Filipi Moura. Since 2000, he has worked with Aline Bittencourt, Fly, and Bruno Williams. Diego teaches break dancing, locking and hip-hop. Since 2008, he has worked with Compagnie Käfig on Agwa (2008) and Correria (2010). He also danced Käfig Brasil at the 2012 Montpellier Festival of Dance.

LEONARDO ALVES MOREIRA

EDUARDO AUGUSTO PIRES HERMANSON
Eduardo Augusto Pires Hermanson is a dancer and choreographer from Rio de Janeiro, and was co-director of the Group of Street of Niterói for more than ten years. In 2007, Eduardo was invited to do a film with the German-French TV ARTE called Digressions, a documentary based on one of his dance solos, created by him in partnership with São Paulo’s H2 productions, and with the choreographer Bruno Beltrão. He also coordinates the project called “The Working Improv Series” that explores the contact improvisation technique and reviews it through experimentations linked with street dance styles. He has taken part in Compagnie Käfig’s productions Correria Agwa and Käfig Brasil since 2014.

CLEITON LUIZ CAETANO DE OLIVEIRA
Specializing in urban dance since 2006, Cleiton choreographed the works of Cie Espaço arte em movimento (Rio de Janeiro) and led hip-hop classes at the dance school Arôxa (Rio de Janeiro). Cleiton has danced with Thiaguinho, D’black, and Dupla Dolls. He also leads hip-hop workshops in Brazil and France. He joined the Compagnie Käfig in 2008 for Agwa, followed by Correria (2010) and Käfig Brasil (2012).

HELIO ROBSON DOS ANJOS CAVALCANTI
Helio mixes hip-hop culture (graffiti, dj, mc and b-boy), with Brazilian popular cultures from Rio de Janeiro including samba, funk, and capoeira. He has been teaching classes in different districts of Rio de Janeiro, in many communities and NGOs. He takes part in several companies such as Xstyle Dances Company and Cia D’Fora, presented in international festivals like Rio H2K, FHK2 of Curitiba, Intervenção Caicila Becker, and X-everything. He created and coordinates the project “Hip Hop that comes From within,” destined to all people that already dance or to all that want to learn to dance through the experience of the street. In 2014, he joined Compagnie Käfig’s productions Correria Agwa and Käfig Brasil.

GEOVANE FIDELIS DA CONCEICAO
Geovane began street dancing in 2004 and joined the dance collective Soul Brooklyn Crew (Russia). He leads dance classes in Brazil, France and Russia. He has also participated in events such as Urban Groove Steady (Lyon), Street Dance Kemp 2010 (Brazil), Cercle Underground 3 2011 (Paris), 3° House 2011 (Russia), Break Out Battle-jury (Russia), Kaat Festival (Japan), and Cercle Underground 4 (Belgium and Russia). Since 2008, he has been working with Mourad Merzouki, choreographer of the Compagnie Käfig, with the shows Agwa (2008) and Correria (2010) and is part of Käfig Brasil.
THE ARTISTS

DIEGO GONCALVES DO NASCIMENTO LEITAO
Diego has researched urban dance since 1995. He worked with Regis Yakagi (France) and Regina Sauer, Caio Nunes, Bernardo Stumpf, and Renato Vieira (Brazil). Since 2003, Diego has led street dancing classes at several Rio de Janeiro studios and in several French cities. Since 2008, he has worked with Compagnie Käfig on Agwa (2008) and Correria (2010) and Käfig Brasil.

ALDAIR JUNIOR MACHADO NOGUEIRA
Aldair trained with Henry Link, Mr. Wiggles, Buddha Stretch, Archie Burnett, Lando Wilkins, Shaun Evaristo, Federica Naclerio, Kite, Hiro, Yoshie, and Tatsuo, Edson Guiu and Storm. He has participated in dance competitions in several countries, including the USA, Europe, Japan, and Brazil. He has also worked with choreographer Renato Vieira. Since 2008, he has worked with Compagnie Käfig on Agwa (2008), Correria (2010) and Käfig Brasil.

WANDERLINO MARTINS NEVES
Wanderlido began dancing in 2000 and joined the dance group Mabe. He then founded a break dance group, Elemento Surpresa, which participated in dance competitions, concerts, and festivals. He joined the Compagnie Käfig in 2008 with the creation Agwa, followed by Correria (2010) and Käfig Brasil (2012).

JOSÉ AMILTON RODRIGUES JUNIOR
Jose began studying urban dance in 2003 at the Movimento Art e Cia. Since then, he has developed his technical skills by studying dance in Brazil and around the world. He teaches hip-hop and dances many styles including house, popping, locking, and break dance, in addition to classical and jazz dance. In 2008, he joined Compagnie Käfig for Agwa, followed by Correria (2010) and Käfig Brasil (2012).

ALEXSANDRO SOARES CAMPANHA DA SILVA
Alexsandro has worked in urban dance since 2001. In Brazil, he participated in several break dance competitions and commercials. He performed in the feature film Maré nossa história de amor. He has led break dancing workshops in France and recently shared the stage with Roll Ballet (USA). Since 2008, he has worked with Compagnie Käfig on Agwa (2008) and Correria (2010) and Käfig Brasil (2012).
McKNIght Fellowships for Dancers and Choreographers

Each year the McKnight Fellowships for Dancers and Choreographers awards $25,000 to Minnesota dance artists in recognition of exceptional artistic work. These unrestricted awards also come with additional career and artistic support. Fully funded by The McKnight Foundation since 1981, the awards span 10 artistic disciplines and are a tremendous honor for an artist to receive. Fellowships have supported 1,206 artists over the last 34 years and have enriched the lives of artists and the Minnesota arts community. Here’s what a few of the fellows have to say...

"The fellowship reinvigorated my drive and passion for something that is an integral part of who I am. Above all else it made me want to be a better dancer."

"This [fellowship] has given me support for my grand visions. It gave me the power to create great change in this past year."

"The fellowship feels like it gives me the permission—like it opens the floodgates—to go further in my career."

"Thank you, thank you, thank you, thank you Northrop and the McKnight Foundation!"

FILM SCREENINGS AT NORTHROP

MARTHA GRAHAM DANCE COMPANY
"Martha Graham: In Performance" Thu, Apr 2, 6:00 pm

EIFMAN BALLET
"Camille Claudel" Thu, Apr 23, 6:00 pm

"Boris Eifman: Ballet Rehearsal" Sun, Apr 26, 4:00 pm

Performance previews are also held prior to all season dance performances in the Best Buy Theater and are FREE and open to the public. For more information, visit northrop.umn.edu.

Have a Glass, On Us

Make your post-Theater debut at The Beacon, and enjoy a complimentary glass of wine with purchase of any lunch or dinner farm-to-fork entrée.

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Eifman Ballet in Rodin. Photo © Nicolay Krusser.

Martha Graham Dance Company. Photo © Tim Rummelhoff.
Join us for a night of toasts, good cheer and gourmet hors d’oeuvres to celebrate the changing climate that alumni are creating in our community.

Sip your way through the evening with four seasonally inspired cocktails, followed by an entertaining conversation with hazardous weather expert and alumnus Kenny Blumenfeld.

We’re thrilled to announce our 2015 // 16 season line-up following the Martha Graham Dance Company 2015 // 16 season line-up following We’re thrilled to announce our

Surdyk’s Café
Surdyk’s Café is on the first floor, west side of Northrop. Hours: 7:30 am–7:00 pm, Monday–Friday and 10:00 am–3:00 pm Saturday. Surdyk’s concessions (including wine and beer) are located on the east and west sides of each level before and during performances happening on the Carlson Family Stage.

Restrooms
Restrooms are located on every level and side of the building, including family restrooms (except on the fourth floor, where there is a women’s restroom on the east side, and a men’s restroom on the west side only).

General Ticket Information
For any ticketing questions, visit U of M Tickets and Events on the ground floor of west and east sides of the building or visit northrop.umn.edu for the most current listing of events.

Replacing Lost Tickets
For your convenience, U of M Tickets & Events keeps record of your purchase, should you lose or forget your tickets.

Accommodating Special Needs
Northrop has accessible seating; please ask an usher for assistance. Elevators are located on both the east and west sides of the building. Accessibility services, including parking information, are available upon request.

If a guest wishes to transfer from their wheelchair to fixed seats, the wheelchair will be taken to the outer lobby to comply with local fire code regulations. At the end of the performance an usher will return the wheelchair to the guest.

Cameras and Cell Phones
Use of cameras and recording equipment are not permitted in the theater. Please be considerate and turn off your cell phones or other electronic devices during the performance.

Motorist Assistance
University of Minnesota provides free jump starts, vehicle unlocking, and flat tire changes to vehicles in University parking facilities Mon–Fri, 7:00 am–10:00 pm. Call 612-626-PARK (7275) for assistance.

Campus Security Escort
Trained security monitors are available 24/7 to walk or bike with anyone on campus. This free service is provided by the University of Minnesota Police Department. Please call 612-624-WALK (9255) or ask an usher to contact them for you.

Questions?
If you have any questions or concerns, please ask an usher or anyone with a Northrop name tag.

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2014 // 15 SEASON

MARTHA GRAHAM DANCE COMPANY
Fri, Apr 10 & Sat, Apr 11 8:00 pm

The acclaimed company performs two different shows, with U of M student dancers taking the stage both nights.

Graham single-handedly defined contemporary dance as a uniquely American art form, crossing artistic boundaries.

EIFMAN BALLET
Tue, Apr 28 & Wed, Apr 29
Rodin, a full length ballet about the terrible price of genius

Attend two or more Northrop spring season performances and get 15% off.
Use code: spring15.